

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-79 are pending. Claims 29-79 are cancelled due to a restriction requirement. No claims are added by amendment. Claim 28 is allowed, claims 1-8 are rejected, and claims 9-27 are objected to. Claim 9 is cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1, 3-8, and 10-27 are at issue.

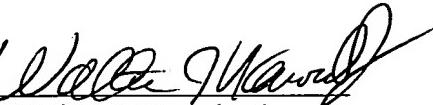
Claims 29-79 are cancelled due to the restriction requirement being made final.

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Yeldener, U.S. Patent No. 5,890,108. However, claim 9, which depends from claim 1, has been deemed to recite allowable subject matter if recited in independent form. Claim 1 is amended to recite the subject matter of claim 9, and claim 9 is cancelled by amendment. Claims 10, 12, 13, 16 and 20 are amended to depend from claim 1 instead of cancelled claim 9. Accordingly, independent claim 1 now recites subject matter that has already been deemed allowable. Also, all of the remaining claims at issue depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, and also recite allowable subject matter. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance.

If the examiner finds that there are any outstanding issues which may be resolved by a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.

By   
Walter J. Kawula, Jr.

Registration No. 39,724

November 15, 2004

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.  
120 S. Riverside Plaza, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
Phone: (312) 655-1500  
Fax: (312) 655-1501